THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes Sir, this was done during the rainy season.

(b) No. of complaints lodged in the register during the last six months

6/99 — 746
7/99 — 1153
8/99 — 2466
9/99 — 567
10/99 — 280
11/99 — 118

All these complaints have been cleared.

(c) All the complaints are made over to the FRS (Fault Repair Service) Section. After testing in FRS, faults are attended by the field staff.

Post Offices in Rented Premises in Maharashtra

105. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the post offices which are housed in rented premises in Maharashtra;

(b) the steps taken to build own premises for such post offices; and

(c) whether there are also vacant Government land lying unutilised for several years; if so, whether Government propose to build post office building on the vacant Government land, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) The details of such offices are given in the enclosed statement (*see* below).

(b) The Department is constructing 3 (Three) Post Office buildings in the current financial year and has approved 7 (seven) more projects which will be commenced as per plan outlay.

(c) Yes, Sir, there are Government lands lying unutilised for several years, it is proposed to build post office buildings in a phased manner subject to availability of funds.

Statement

Number of Post Offices Functioning in the Rented Buildings

Sl. No.	Name of District	No. of POs in Rented Bldgs.
1.	Mumbai	215
2.	Thane	103
3.	Raigad	61
4.	Buldhana	21
5.	Amravati	41
6.	Akola	30
7.	Wardha	23
8.	Veotmal	38
9.	Nagpur	102
10.	Bhandara	27
11.	Chandrapur	30
12.	Gadohiroli	13
13.	Aurangabad	39
14.	Parbhani	21
15.	Nanded	40
16.	Nasik	76
17.	Jalna	26
18.	Latur	23
19.	Beed	28
20.	Dhule	50
21.	Jalgaon	70
22.	Osmanabad	29
23.	Puna	184
24.	Satara	82
25.	Ahmednagar	101
26.	Solapur	86
27.	Kolhapur	89

Sl. No.	Name of District	No. of POs in Rented Bldgs.
28.	Patnegiri	72
29.	Sangli	73
30.	Sindhudurg	55

Out of above 4 are Head Post Offices and others are Sub Offices.

Opening of New Post and Telegraph Offices in Adivasi Districts of Maharashtra

106. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there had been a long pending demand for opening of the Post and Telegraph offices for the convenience of the people living in Adivasi districts of Maharashtra;

(b) how many post offices are working for the benefit of each such Adivasi district in Maharashtra; and

(c) the criteria for opening of post offices in far flung areas of Adivasi districts in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR):

(a) *Department of Posts*:

Yes, Sir, there have been long pending demand for opening Post Offices in some Adivasi areas of Maharashtra.

Department of Telecom:

There has been no demand for opening of telegraph offices in Adivasi districts of Maharashtra.

(b) The number of post offices working in the Adivasi districts of Maharashtra are given in the enclosed Statement-I. (*See* below).

(c) The criteria for opening post offices in tribal areas is given in Statement-II.